

APPENDICES

L3: STANDARDS FOR LEISURE AND RECREATION FACILITIES

Facility	Minimum Size	Catchment Area or Standard	Characteristics
Local Play Areas	0.2 hectares ¹ or 0.35 if surrounded by housing	300 metres	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mainly for children up to age 8 For unsupervised play close to home Located at 500 metre intervals Active Zone² should be at least 20 metres from residential property boundaries and 30 metres from roads Approximately 5¹ items of play equipment and small games area
Neighbourhood Play Areas	0.6 hectares ¹	600 metres	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For all children, but emphasis on 8+ For unsupervised play Located at 1,000 metre intervals Active Zone² should be at least 40 metres from residential property boundaries and 30 metres from roads Approximately 8¹ items of play equipment and ball games area, goal wall, cycle area; larger more adventurous equipment The inclusion of youth shelters, wheeled sports facilities and multi-games walls for teenagers is essential
Local Parks	1-2 hectares	600 metres 0.6 hectares per 1,000 population	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For visitors on foot, including nearby workers Providing children's play, sitting out areas, landscaped environment, community events area, kickabout area and playing fields if the park is large enough At least 0.4 hectares per 1,000 population for casual, informal playspace if not provided elsewhere
District Parks	20 hectares	1.2 kilometres	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For weekend and occasional visits on foot Containing playing fields, but at least 12 hectares for other pursuits (as in Local Parks) and some car parking
Linear Parks	60 hectares	3.2 kilometres or more where the Park is appreciably larger than 60 hectares	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For weekend and occasional visits by car or public transport Either semi-natural environment, commons, woodland etc, or formal parks providing for both active and possible recreation – e.g. boating, entertainment, etc Containing playing fields but at least 40 hectares for other pursuits Adequate car parking essential
Playing Fields		1 hectares (net) per 1,000 population, 1.5 hectares (gross) per 1,000 population	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gross size includes ancillary facilities such as pavilions, car parking and spectator areas
Allotments		0.25 hectares per 1,000 population	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Should have water supply and car parking Preferably within 600 metres walking distance
Areas of Wildlife Interest	0.5 hectares	0.5 hectares at 1 kilometre intervals Optimum 10 hectares at 1 kilometre intervals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Accessible semi-natural greenspace Normally within or adjoining built-up areas
Sports	4	1 per 20,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> May be provided as joint use facility with school

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Facility	Minimum Size	Catchment Area or Standard	Characteristics
Halls	badminton courts	population	
Swimming Pools	25 x 13 metres	1 per 30,000 population	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May be provided as joint use facility with school

Notes:

¹ These quantities will need to be greater in areas of high density family housing

² Active Zone: area for play equipment and other items

Footnote to Appendix L3

The emphasis of Policy L3 and the above standards is on meeting specific local recreation needs in a flexible manner, providing a wide range of quality facilities. It is not simply a matter of providing a fixed proportion of a proposed development site as open space. Open space may be required for reasons other than recreation – e.g. on aesthetic or nature conservation grounds; such areas generally have little recreation value and will not normally be counted towards recreation space provision.

It may sometimes be appropriate to require a financial contribution to improving facilities in the locality rather than requiring direct provision on site – e.g. where the latter is impractical or if the locality is well provided with recreation space but it is of low quality. If the locality has an existing deficiency in recreation space, a contribution will also be required towards overcoming this deficiency (see Policy PO1). Recreation space must be suitably landscaped, equipped and provided with funds towards future maintenance in accordance with Council specifications.